THE DEPUTIES

Of the REPUBLICK of

AMSTERDAM

TO THE

States of Holland

Convicted of

High-Treason,

Written and Proved

By the

Minister of State.

According to a true Copy Printed at the *HAGUE* 1684.

LONDON,

Printed for *Randal Taylor* near *Stationers Hall*

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The DEPUTIES of the Republick of *AMSTERDAM* to the States of *HOLLAND* Convicted of High-Treason.

SIR,

WHereas you desire to be inform'd of me in some measure of what passed in the Assembly of the Lords the States on the 16th of *Feb.* last, concerning which in this our Countrey so much noise has been made, and whereof the Lords the Burgomasters and Regents of the City of *Amsterdam* so much complain; I do presume to think my self able to give you, and all that think themselves concerned in the true representation of that affair, the following information, whereof all those will be able to judge who for any time since have been present at the said Assembly; which is this.

The Marquis *de Grana* having sent to his Highness the P. of *Orange* a Letter written by the Count *D'avaux*, Extraordinary Ambassadour from the K. of *France* to this State, on the 19th of *January* last to the King his Master,

part in Cifer and part in plain writing, with a Copy of what was cifered, and beſides 3 other Letters; which Letter of the ſaid Count *D'avaux* with the extracts of the aforeſaid 3 particular Letters as much as concerned publick Affairs are already Printed and made publick: His Highneſs conſidered for ſome days what he ſhould doe with the ſaid Letters, for that the matter therein contained was of great importance, and that the State was much concerned to be informed of the correſpondence therein mentioned, and that therefore they ought not to be kept ſecret, the more for that ſome time ſince, and eſpecially about the time of the writing of the ſaid Letter, great muttering was among the reſpective Members in the Aſſembly of the States againſt the City of *Amſterdam* concerning the correſpondence which the Deputies of that City had with foreign Miniſters without imparting the ſame to the States, and from whoſe communication the ſaid deputed Lords uſed many diſcourſes in the Aſſembly of the ſaid States, which upon enquiry were found falſe. His Highneſs thought it therefore beſt at firſt not to concern Juſtice therewith but immediately to acquaint the Lords therewith, and to leave it to their wiſedoms to act therein, that it might not be ſaid that his Highneſs had either done therein too much or too little (as he notwithſtanding all his faithfulneſs and moderation ſhewed on all occaſions, but chiefly when the Government was almoſt in the uttermoſt confuſion, was charged with many forged calumnies chiefly in the ſaid City of *Amſterdam*) and accordingly on the 16th of this preſent Month, being preſent at the meeting of their Lordſhips, he acquainted them that he had ſomewhat to communicate to them of the higheſt importance, with deſire that the Members of that Aſſembly would appoint that the Doors of their Meeting place might be ſhut; *viz.* thoſe of going out of the houſe, that ſo by the going out and in of any of their Members the matter might not be divulged; that

that any one desiring might be admitted in, but that none should be suffered to go forth without leave of their Lordships; whereupon none of the Members replying or moving ought to consideration, the Lord Pensioner of *Holland* rung the Bell to call in one of the Door-keepers, and told him, It was the order of the Lords the States that he should shut the Doors of their Assembly place and withdrawing chambers thereto adjoyning, and admit entrance to any desiring it, but to let none out without order of their Lordships, none of the Members of the Assembly contradicting the order, or moving ought to the contrary. Then his Highness proceeded saying, that what he had to communicate concerned in some manner as therein nam'd the persons of the Lords *Hooft*, *Hop*, old *Schepens*, and Councellor and Pensionary of the City of *Amsterdam*; wherefore his Highness desired that the said Lords would retire into the withdrawing room of the States, whereupon the said Pensioner *Hop* having first spoken to the Lord of *Marsse Veen* Burgomaster of the said City, and deputed by the said City to the Assembly; the said two Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* without alledging ought to consideration, or that ought was moved by the Lords Deputies of the said City of *Amsterdam* or of any of the other Cities, retired into the withdrawing room, whereupon his Highness disclosed the matter to the Lords the States in the Assembly, namely, that he had received these Letters and the original Letter partly in Cifer and partly in plain writing with the unciphering thereof, and gave the 3 Letters into the hands of the Lord Pensioner of *Holland* who read the same, then his Highness declared he had now performed his duty as Governour, leaving the full liberty and disposal thereof to their Lordships to act therein as they should judge necessary for the service of their Countrey. The Lords rising from their Table to deliberate what might be the effect of this

this overture, and the other Members alſo preparing to adviſe, the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* without order and conſent of the Aſſembly entred in again, and ſaid they ought to be preſent when they were to deliberate on the ſaid matter, whereupon many Debates were occaſioned among the Members of the Aſſembly, ſome alledging they ought to abſent, and all the other Lords, except thoſe of *Amſterdam*, deſired them at leaſt in diſcretion to abſent; whereto the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* would in no wiſe yield, ſo that the other Lords to cauſe therein no commotion, and being reſolved to give no other advice in the ſaid matter, but what they ſhould judge to conſiſt with all Juſtice and Equity and the ſervice of their Countrey, reſolved to proceed, although the two aforeſaid Lords were preſent, and ſo inſiſted no longer on their retirement; notwithſtanding thoſe Members who were for the retirement of the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop*, expreſly declared that according to the cuſtome of all ſuch Aſſemblies, and eſpecially according to the moſt ancient cuſtome and reſolution of their Aſſembly, the retirement of the ſaid *Hooft* and *Hop* ought not to be left to their diſcretion, but that they ought to be regulated by the foreſaid reſolution and cuſtome; whereupon the other Members having proceeded to give their ſentiments, they all concluded to give knowledge of this diſcovery to the Lords the Burgomaſters and Common-council their principals and that all the Papers which were in the Cloſets of the Lords of *Amſterdam*, or in the Chamber of the ſaid Lord Penſioner *Hop* ſhould by ſome of the Aſſembly thereto deputed, be ſealed up and left in the cuſtody of the ſaid Lord of *Marſſe Veen*, and the ſealing of them up ſhould be done by the Lords *Vander Gaes*, and *Boert* Burgomaſter and Penſioner reſpective of the Cities of *Delft* and *Alkmar* and the Lord Secretary *Van Beamant*, and that to the ſealing thereof they ſhould uſe their own particular ſeals.

ſeals. And all the Members and particularly alſo the Lords deputed of the ſaid City of *Amſterdam* undertook to give cognizance of the diſcovery and Letters to their Principals the Burgomaſters and Common-council of their ſaid Cities, but of the ſealing up thoſe Papers onely to the Lords Burgomaſters all under the ſame Oath of Secreſie; excepting that the Lords deputed of the City of *Amſterdam*, ſince this Sealing up of theſe Papers chiefly concerned them, ſhould communicate the ſame alſo to their Common council, ſo that nothing elſe was debated in the ſaid Aſſembly, but what concerned the diſcovery made by his Highneſs, and the abſence or preſence of the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* during the Debate on the ſaid diſcovery, the ſealing and ſecuring their Papers, and the ſaid reſolution of Secreſie.

I leave it to your wiſe and ſerious judgment if any who is but any thing impartial could or ought to have otherwiſe managed an affair of ſo great importance and of ſo fair a proſpect as the contents of the ſaid Letters, and if any thing hath been amiſs, it might in truth be ſaid to have been rather by too great moderation than rigour.

But whether or no the Lords the Burgomaſters and Common-council of the City of *Amſterdam*, whoſe Deputies had undertaken to keep the matter ſecret and not to diſcloſe the ſame unto their ſaid Burgomaſters and Common-council, but under a like Oath of Secreſie have regulated themſelves according to thoſe promiſes when they by their Letters communicated the ſame to the Burgomaſters and Governours of the other Cities, and permitted, at leaſt connived the publiſhing the ſame by their City Printer.

But that I may give the better information herein, It will be needfull to conſider what it properly is that the Lords the Burgomaſters and Governours of the City of *Amſterdam* complain of in relation to that Letter; and that is, Firſt concerning the ſhutting of the Doors, Secondly, concerning the

the withdrawing of the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop*, and Thirdly concerning the ſealing up of their Papers. Concerning the firſt it is ſufficiently known to be the cuſtome, that when their Lordſhips in their Aſſembly have been in debate concerning a matter of great import, that they have cauſed the doors of their Aſſembly place to be ſhut, and prohibited the going forth of any without knowledge of their Lordſhips; the examples of which are ſo known, that all thoſe who have frequented that Aſſembly for ſome years ſince cannot be ignorant of, ſo that the ſaid Lords and Commoncouncil have no cauſe to complain thereof as a matter extraordinary and unheard of; and that the Penſionary Councellor of *Holland* ſhould alone have given order concerning the ſame, without firſt putting the queſtion round to all the Members of the Aſſembly, is wrongly mentioned; for his Highneſs had openly deſired it of all the Members preſent, that for the importance of the buſineſs, and for that many of the Members did often uſe to go out and come in, that therefore the doors of the ſaid place might be ſhut; and that no man contradicted that matter, or urged any the leaſt conſideration againſt the ſo doing. It was therefore the place of the Lord Penſionary Councellor to ſignifie unto thoſe who in the Aſſembly are concerned, the pleaſure of the Lords the States, and accordingly the Doorkeepers being called in, he told them the reſolution of the States to have the doors ſhut, which he did not privately but in the hearing of the whole Aſſembly, without oppoſition, contradiction or appearance thereof by any; and ſince I cannot perceive wherein he the ſaid Lord Penſionary Councellor hath done ill or againſt the orders of our Countrey, notwithſtanding that period might eaſily admit ſuch an interpretation, as if he had deſigned to himſelf an unjuſt and illegal power; I muſt therefore believe that the ſame is rather pretended out of animoſity than reaſon, the rather for

for that in the ſame Letter it is inſinuated by a repetition to have been the ſole duty of the Lord Penſionary Councellor, eſpecially when you ſhall pleaſe to call to mind that in matters of much greater import than is that of ſhutting and opening the Doors of the Aſſembly place, the ſaid Councellor Penſionary hath been uſed oftentimes to take the reſolution of the Aſſembly as concluded, without moving the queſtion round to every particular Member, when none of the Members have objected any thing againſt what was moved. As to the ſecond point concerning the preſence or abſence of the Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* during the opening and debate on the aforeſaid Letter, I deſire you will conſider that it is not onely uſed in all Collegiate Aſſemblies that thoſe on whoſe matters the debate is, when they are Members of the ſame Aſſembly, ſhould abſent themſelves during the ſaid Debate, to leave unto the reſt a freedom in debate of the ſaid matter, to give their ſentiments free and undiſturbed; and that alſo the inſtructions of moſt Collegiate Aſſemblies are to that end directed, and that it hath alſo been a very ancient cuſtome in the aſſembly of the Lords the States that not onely thoſe in whoſe matters particular debates and reſolutions are to be had, are to abſent themſelves from that Aſſembly, but that alſo the abſence hath been commanded of thoſe that were their nigheſt relations, notwithſtanding their quality in that preſent Aſſembly; yea that even the Lords deputed to that Aſſembly by the ſingle notice given by the then Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland* are accuſtomed to abſent when in the Aſſembly any debates were to be had concerning the Cities from whence they were deputed; yea alſo in ſuch an occaſion when all the members of the ſaid Aſſembly having on the matter in debate brought in the advice of the Lords their Principals, and ſhould adviſe not according to their own judgment as on accidental cauſes, but even when they alone

are to deliver the charge of the Lords their Principals in which the preſence of ſuch Members could make no change, yea, that the deputed Lords of ſuch Cities deſiring not to be abſent out of the Aſſembly that they might onely hear the Lords Principals of the other Members; notwithſtanding they have been neceſſitated to obey the orders given them to abſent, although it were but by the plurality of the Votes of the other Members, and that ſeveral of the other Members declared themſelves free to utter their minds in preſence of thoſe Members which were ordered to abſent. The Aſſembly of their Lordſhips have judged it neceſſary in matters of the leaſt importance, and therefore as an expreſs reſolution have cauſed it to be regiſtred, *viz.* that each one concerning whom as to the diſtribution of any Office or place, it was deliberated, that during that deliberation he ſhould be abſent, to leave them free to their deliberation. It is true that the Lord *Marſveen* Burgomaſter of the ſaid City and deputed to the Aſſembly, proteſted to be ignorant of all the correſpondencies mentioned in that Letter; and that the Lord old Burgomaſter *Van Opmeer* had ſaid that the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* had done nothing without order, but 'tis alſo true that that Order could not qualifie the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* during the ſaid deliberation to be preſent in the Aſſembly, ſince by reaſon and very ancient cuſtome in ſuch a caſe all thoſe who had participated in the ſame matter, yea alſo all the Lords deputed of that City ought to have abſented themſelves if the Lords the Members of the Aſſembly had inſiſted thereon.

But it is ſaid the Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* were not particularly named in the ſaid Letter of the Count *D' Avaux*, none but the Lords of *Amſterdam* being therein expreſſed, and when the Lord Councellor Penſionary ſaid to them that on the day of the writing of the ſaid Letter they had been at the

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houſe of the ſaid Embaſſadour, they proved they were then elſewhere. It were in truth to be wiſhed, that when they would make known matters of that nature to Members of the Government for their diſcharge, they ſhould then declare the truth thereof without any colouring; it is true that the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* are not mentioned in the ſaid Letter by name, and that therein is onely expreſt *Meſſieurs D' Amſterdam* the Lords of *Amſterdam*, but it is alſo true that what in the Letter of the ſaid Embaſſadour is mentioned muſt have been tranſacted by theſe Lords of *Amſterdam*, who had ſpoke with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour of *France*; ſince thoſe who had not ſpoken with the ſaid Embaſſadour, by the name of *Meſſieurs d' Amſterdam*, the Lords of *Amſterdam*, who had told him thus, as is expreſs'd in the Letter, could not be comprehended. Now it is true and acknowledged as well by the Lords of *Amſterdam* as by the Lords *Hooft* and *Hop*, that the ſame Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* were the ſame who had ſpoken with the Lord Embaſſadour, and I know none that ſhall juſtly judge, but will find a difference therein, whether the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour in the aforeſaid Letter ſhould have named the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop*, or that he ſhould ſay the Lords of *Amſterdam*, had told me thus, when it muſt be conſtrued from the acknowledgment of the ſaid Lords, that the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* were the ſame who at that time were with him and ſpoke with him without being able to name any others, and although it be true that the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* when the Lord Penſionary Councellor asked them if on the Sunday when the Letter was written they had not been at his houſe, they anſwered in the Negative, and could prove themſelves to have been elſewhere; but it is alſo true the ſaid Lord Penſionary was miſtaken in the day, and that the ſaid Lords acknowledged to have been the day before, namely, Saturday, with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, and

ſpoke to him as he expreſly hath mentioned it in the ſaid Letter, and I leave it to your judgment whether in this they proceeded with the required ſincerity when they carp at the miſ-expreſſion of the day, when the truth of their ſpeaking to the Embaſſadour and the time thereof and their own confeſſion may conſiſt together. When now the reſolution of the Lords the States and the practice thereon ſucceeding expreſly infer that thoſe whoſe affair was in deliberation before the Aſſembly ought to abſent during thoſe deliberations, and that by the confeſſion as well of the Lords of *Amſterdam* as of the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* it appeareth that they are the ſame who had ſpoke with the ſaid Embaſſadour, and that it is therefore their caſe that is in debate; and that the ſaid Lords took the power to be preſent notwithſtanding many of the Members were of judgment that they ſhould conform to the aforeſaid reſolution and practice; and I judge that all impartial men will adjudge that act of theirs in thus ſtaying in the Aſſembly a very great diſreſpect ſhewed to their Sovereign Power there lawfully aſſembled, and informing themſelves and debating concerning actions not onely in themſelves unlawfull, but alſo in the higheſt puniſhable, and ſaid by them to have been acted. And that the other Members of their Lordſhips aſſembly had great reaſon to complain of them and to reſent the wrong done them by the Lords of *Amſterdam* depending on their own authority as if they were not tied to the foreſaid reſolutions nor anypractice enſuing thereon.

Concerning the third point, to wit the ſealing up of the aforeſaid Papers, the aforeſaid Lords Burgomaſters and Common-council of *Amſterdam* have as little reaſon to complain as they have concerning the ſhutting of the doors beforementioned; or the required abſence of the Lords *Hooft* and

and *Hop*, but that this may the better appear we muſt of neceſſity touch ſomewhat nearer the matter giving occaſion to that reſolution of theirs for Sealing up the foreſaid Papers, which was this; that their Lordſhips perceived out of the forementioned Letter of the ſaid Embaſſadour that what was written was not to a private friend to whom a man might write his ſentiment as he pleaſed, but that it was writ to the King his Maſter to whom he was obliged to give an exact account of all his negotiations, and whom he ought not nor could abuſe, and writ to him of ſeveral matters, concerning which he ſaid to have treated with the Lords of *Amſterdam*, and that he judged them of ſuch importance that to the end the King his Maſter might alſo be informed thereof, he ſent that Letter with an expreſs Poſt by one of his own domeſticks; ſo that what is charged on the Lords of *Amſterdam* was not founded on a ſuppoſition or on the ſaying of a third perſon, but on the Letter of an Embaſſadour writ to his King, to whom he is obliged to give an account of all his Negotiations, and not of that which was related to him by a third perſon, or what he learned accidentally, but of ſomething that himſelf in perſon had treated with the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* alſo in perſon, and whereon he expected farther order in anſwer from the ſaid King his Maſter. I need not, Sir, acquaint you with the duty of an Embaſſadour as well known unto your ſelf as to any other, for although the Character given them which they may make uſe of, in not dealing too ſtrictly juſt with thoſe to whom they are ſent, they are not by common reaſon therefore diſpenſed from giving to their Principals an exact true and faithfull account to the utmoſt of their power, of all their tranſactions and intelligence gained, eſpecially in the moſt eſſential parts thereof. And therefore that the Count *D' Avaux* who hath ſo many years performed the function of an Embaſſadour, and that with ſo general approbation

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of all men, who if I may ſo ſay hath been educated under the tuition of the late Count *D' Avaux*, who hath gained the repute throughout the World to have been one of the greateſt Maſters in matters of Negotiations and Treaties, and who fully underſtood the duty of an Embaſſadour as is manifeſt by the Negotiations he hath treated. That he could fail in one of the moſt eſſential duties of an Embaſſadour, *viz.* the giving of a true and exact account to the King his Maſter of that which himſelf had treated about, and that therein he would abuſe him, even ſuch a King who ſo well knoweth to make himſelf obeyed by thoſe that ſerve him, or to puniſh the leaſt failure therein, will by none be conſented to who is not prejudiced. And this is alſo herein confirmed, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had with the ſame Lord Embaſſadour ſuch a familiar converſe, that the other Members of the Aſſembly were ever therewith offended; and that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* were admoniſhed to quit or moderate that ſo offending communication by the other Members before the Aſſembly was met and ready to deliberate; and when ſeveral of the Members ſtood diſcourſing together, and at the end of their debates had quitted their places, even then the Lord Councellor Penſionary *Hop* with a great confidence, and to a farther diſcontent of very many Members, anſwered, that they underſtood their liberty to go ſo often to the Lord Embaſſadour as they ſhould think fit; yea, and that with ſo much greater confidence he expreſt himſelf, that the ſaid Lords deputed of *Amſterdam* had inſerted ſome things in their advices, which the Miniſter of the King of *Great Brittain* ſhould have ſaid; and his Highneſs being informed by the ſaid Miniſter of *England*, that what was alledged was untruth, and having thereof given notice to the Aſſembly of the Lords the States, with complaint concerning the conduct of thoſe of *Amſterdam*. At the ſame time, and on the deliberation for

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a farther prohibition of communication with Foreign Miniſters concerning affairs of the State, The ſaid Lords Deputies in the Aſſembly in their turn expreſſing their ſenſe by the mouth of the ſaid Lord Penſionary *Hop*, in a braving manner declared they were reſolved not to ceaſe that communication, and that they would yet that Afternoon ſpeak with the Lord Embaſſadour of *France*, that the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour gave them thereto encouragement, that he had ſpoke to them on *Chriſtmas* Eve of ſome matters concerning the Trade for St. *Vallery*, and that on occaſion of theſe particular matters he ſometimes intermingled ſome State Affairs, but that thereof they had given an account to the Lords their Principals, that they alſo had been at *Delft* to confer with them, that they were convinced of their endeavours to the welfare of the Republick, and therefore were not obliged to reflect on the jealouſie of the Members; but not in all this touching one word concerning the matters relating to the Commonwealth, whereof was treated between them and the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour; and that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* farther acknowledged that the ſaid Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* had been with the Embaſſadour the day before the writing of that Letter; add thereto that ſeveral matters mentioned in the ſame Letter that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* ſhould have done, were alſo in truth by them effected, as I ſhall hereafter more at large demonſtrate, and that ſo many circumſtances concurred with the ſaid fact as ſeldom can be brought together to make clearly out the truth of a matter treated of between a few perſons. What the contents of the ſaid Letter were, you may collect out of the Printed Letter of the Count *D' Avaux*, and I would not have made farther mention thereof if I had not thought it needfull for your better information to explain the contents thereof ſomewhat more particularly.

Sir,

Sir, you may remember with what immoderate zeal the Lords of *Amsterdam* have endeavoured to oblige the other Members under pretext of Counsel to force the King of *Spain* to accept of one of the Equivalents expressed in the memorial of the Count *D' Avaux* of the Fifth of *November* last, you will possibly also know at least many Lords who frequent the Assemblies of the Lords the States, have at several times heard that when the poor Inhabitants of the *Spanish Netherlands* were bewailed, and that men even stood amazed at the desolations which the hard, Unchristian, yea Inhumane procedures of the *French* effected; that it hath often been said by some of those Lords, that the *Spaniards* must be thereby forced to give satisfaction to the King of *France*; that it was a punishment which the *Spaniards* must suffer for not resolving to comply with the will of the King of *France*, and many other like discourses you may remember, also how oft they have desired that Debates should be had on the said memorial of the Fifth of *November*, how often they have obliged the Members to confer with their Principals concerning the same after they had already by formal resolutions in their Councils taken several times declared that *Spain* must accept one of the Equivalents, and that therefore they could no more confer with their Fellow-members on the same subject; what particular endeavours the Lords of *Amsterdam* have used now with the one, then with the other Member, yea so much that the other Members have been offended thereat, with what earnestness they have opposed the Levy of the Sixteen thousand Men, notwithstanding all the other Members of their Lordships Assembly consented thereto, and which they judged so highly necessary for defence of this State, and that without it this State even without any consideration of assistence to *Spain* was exposed to the greatest danger, and when they herein effected nothing, they then addressed themselves to the

Lords deputed in the Generality from the other Provinces, and particularly alſo to the Lords deputed from the Province of *Frieſland* and the Cities and Countries. The contents then of the Letter is, firſt, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had complained to him the Lord Embaſſadour that by their ſingle Authority they could not effect that the States might deliberate on the meaſures which they had to take in caſe *Spain* before the end of *January* concluded not an accommodation with *France*, that he the Lord Embaſſadour could preſent no Memorial concerning the ſame, and by that means bring the matter to be deliberated notwithſtanding their earneſt deſire of him to that method; they had together conſidered of all the expedients which might ſupply the effect of Memorial; that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had thereupon propoſed to him, that he would permit them, that by their means a conference might be had with him by ſome deputed out of the States General, and that in that conference a friend of the City of *Amſterdam*, who was one of the Deputies of *Holland*, ſhould deſire of the Lord Embaſſadour an explanation of what might happen, if before the end of *January Spain* did not accept one of the Propoſals made by *France*, upon which he would find ſufficient matter to bring it to a deliberation among the States General; to which he had conſented; that immediately thereon thoſe Lords of *Amſterdam* had ſpoken with ſome of the Lords deputed to the Generality, moſt of his Highneſs's party, to have a conference concerning the taking of the Ship *La Regle* (otherwiſe named the *Terms* of *Amſterdam* which the *French* had taken before the Road of *Alicant* from under the protection of the Flag of this State, under pretence that it was an *Algerine* Ship) That thoſe deputed Lords were glad to hear the complaints of *Amſterdam* againſt *France*, but there were others more foreſeeing wherein that expedient failed them; it was truth,

and the Lords of *Amſterdam* have been neceſſitated to acknowledge it, that among others they had ſpoken with one Lord deputed to the Generality from the Province of *Guelderland* to bring that conference about, and it is alſo true that endeavours have been uſed for ſuch a conference, and that the holding of that conference hath been declined, not that it was ſuſpected; for as yet there was no ſuch ſuſpicion of the Lords of *Amſterdam*, but onely for that they did not yet know wherefore a complaint ſhould be made to the Lord Embaſſadour, ſince the remedy on the complaint was to be ſought not here but in *France*; and that in *France* we had an Embaſſadour who might there move the ſaid complaints and proſecute the ſame remedy, ſo that that intreague which the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour in the foreſaid Letter ſaid, that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* had continued with him to bring the States General to deliberate concerning the aforeſaid meaſures, was in truth a buſineſs contrived by the Lords of *Amſterdam*, and which they alſo confeſſed and avowed.

The Second matter contained in the Letter was, that the aforeſaid firſt expedient failing, the Lords of *Amſterdam* would make uſe of another means, which by their vigilance ſucceeded in place of the firſt, which was on occaſion of a complement of congratulation which the Lords the States General had to make unto him the Lord Embaſſadour on the Birth of the Lord Duke of *Anjou*, and that they the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* had informed the Lords deputed from the Province of *Frieſland* City and Countrey of the whole matter, and had obliged the ſaid Lords to ſpeak to him on the ſame manner as the deputed from *Amſterdam* ſhould have ſpoken to him if the deputation had been compleat. The Lords of *Amſterdam* alſo muſt acknowledge that they had given notice of the deſign to the Deputies of the Province of *Frieſland* City and Countrey, *viz.* under pretence of that conference

conference to ſpeak of the foreſaid meaſures they were to take in caſe *Spain* ſhould decline the acceptance of any of the Equivalents before the end of *January*.

I cannot alſo conceal from you that I ſuppoſe my ſelf to be ſufficiently informed that the day before the ſaid complement of congratulation was to have been made, ſome Members of *Holland* came to the Councellor Penſionary of *Holland*, and asked him if the Lords appointed to perform that complement ſhould propoſe any other matters than the ſaid complement, ſaying, that they were informed, that under pretence thereof they were to ſpeak of other matters.

'Tis alſo true what the ſaid Letter alſo mentioneth, that after the performance of that complement there was ſpoken alſo concerning the taking the aforeſaid meaſures, and what further is mentioned concerning the ſame in the foreſaid Letter, excepting onely that in the Letter is contained that the Lords the Deputies of *Frieſland* City and Countrey did firſt begin the diſcourſe concerning the taking the foreſaid meaſures, and that the deputed Lords who made that complement ſay, that the diſcourſe was firſt mentioned by the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour of *France*, and that after they were all riſen in order to depart.

In the foreſaid Letter it followeth that the Lords of *Amſterdam* about an hour after came to ſpeak with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, informing him of the endeavours which by them had been uſed; as alſo that in the Generality no deliberation was had concerning any matter, concerning which no Memorial had been preſented. And the Lords of *Amſterdam* have been neceſſitated to acknowledge that at the ſame time they had been at the houſe of the ſaid Embaſſadour, and acquainted him that in the Generality there was no deliberation upon any matters not contained in a Memorial.

The ſaid Lord Embaſſadour addeth further that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* had moreover ſaid, that when a Miniſter ſpoke with Deputies, thoſe Deputies then reſolved together, whether what was ſaid to them ſhould be propoſed as a point of deliberation, and that they had the promiſe of *Frieſland* City and Countrey that they would be of advice, that thereof ſhould be made a point of deliberation, and would therein alſo vote with the Lord deputed from *Holland* in caſe thoſe in fear of his Highneſs ſhould be of another ſentiment; and that thoſe of *Amſterdam* ſaid, that notwithſtanding all precautions they durſt not aſſure themſelves that thereof would be made a point of deliberation. And, Sir, you know that the Heer of *Werckendam* who had performed the aforeſaid complement of congratulation, having communicated to the Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland* what the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour in the ſaid conference had ſaid concerning the taking of the aforeſaid meaſures; the ſaid Heer of *Werckendam* and Lord Councellor Penſionary were of advice that what in the aforeſaid conference was moved, muſt alſo be reported in the Aſſembly of the States. And you alſo may remember that the Lord deputed from the City and Countrey, and the Lord deputed from *Frieſland*, which had been preſent at the ſaid conference, being then abſent from the *Hague*, uſed very earneſt endeavours to the end that the ſame might be made a matter of debate by the deputies of the States, and that the Councellor Penſionary of *Holland* had inſiſted that the received and confirmed cuſtome of their Highneſſes Aſſembly muſt herein alſo be obſerved, and that to that effect the Lord Embaſſadour muſt firſt preſent thereof a Memorial, that in an orderly manner it might be known what in the aforeſaid Conference hapned, and what the true meaning was of the King of *France*, from which thoſe deputed Lords who aſſiſted at that Conference ſomewhat differed. It was alſo in the end reſolved, that the ſaid Embaſſadour

baſſadour ſhould be informed that in caſe he judged it needfull thereon to take a reſolution, that he would then without difficulty preſent the foreſaid Memorial, ſo that the contents of the ſaid Letter in that matter agreed evidently with the truth.

The ſaid Embaſſadour writeth further, that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* had ſaid that they deſired the preſentation of that Memorial, not ſo much for to have a deliberation thereon in the Generality as to make appear the good intention of his Maſter for this State, and that the knowledge they had thereof had already wrought conſiderable effects, and that they hoped yet more thereof when that ſhould be ſpread abroad.

That they had alledged to him, that not to expreſs the matter too plain, and that it might appear that that propoſition was made to no other end, but to the advantage of the *States General*, that ſome allays might be found; as that he the Lord Embaſſadour had obſerved from ſeveral of the Members of State the fear they had of his Majeſties Arms, if *Spain* aſſented not before the end of *January*, that therefore his Majeſty had ordered him the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour to make known to their Highneſſes, that if they remained in the State wherein they were, and hindred that the Troups they had ſent the *Spaniards* ſhould not further act than in defence of the *Spaniſh* places; his Majeſty to free the *States General* from that fear, would promiſe them to attack no places, and to cauſe his Forces to act elſewhere, and content himſelf to force the *Spaniſh Netherlands* by quartering of his Troups on them, and the exacting of Contributions; and what concerned the ſecurity which his Majeſty deſired, that no new Levies ſhould be made, that thoſe were matters that might beſt be by Verbal expreſſions, but not mentioned in the Memorial, that thereby the intrinſick of Government ſhould not be touched, but that

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it would be ſufficient to ſay that they ſhould remain in the State wherein they were, and that alſo otherwiſe when they agreed concerning the reſt, they would then rather think on diſcharging of thoſe already raiſed, than of raiſing any new Troups.

That the Lords of *Amſterdam* had very earneſtly preſſed him to obtain that permiſſion of his Majeſty, and that they did all what was poſſible thereby to cauſe that matter to take effect, that they had aſſured him that every day they gained one or other City to their judgment, and that they had gained one of the principalleſt; that they wrought hard to bring the *Spaniards* to an accommodation, and if that could not be effected, that they muſt then take the aforeſaid means in hand to maintain the Peace in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, and that they hoped that the Provinces of *Frieſland* City and Countrey would agree to their Sentiments, and that they had deſired him to ſpeak with their Deputies to confirm them the more. So that the Lord Embaſſadour could aſſure his Majeſty that the Lords of *Amſterdam* did doe all that was in their power, and that they agitated with the other Cities with an incredible zeal and application, and that he could not omit to acquaint his Majeſty that ſome Members of the State had made difficulty to agree that his Majeſty ſhould execute upon the *Spaniſh* open Countries, for that it was impoſſible that theſe Provinces could maintain themſelves, when they ſhould not know from whence to find ſubſiſtence, and that ſo indirectly the whole Barrier ſhould be taken away.

Now to conſider whether there be truth in what the Lord Embaſſadour hath written in this matter, you will no doubt remember that the Lords of *Amſterdam* in particular diſcourſes they had with the Members of the Aſſembly before they had orderly taken their ſeats, as alſo when the ſame Members were riſen after the concluſion, and demitting

ting of the Aſſembly they had now and then ſpoken much of expedients that ought to be taken to keep the War out of the *Spaniſh Netherlands* in caſe the *Spaniards* ſhould accept none of the *French Poſtulata*, or accommodate themſelves with *France*; that they alſo endeavoured particularly to inform themſelves of his Highneſs, whether the Militia of this State in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* had any other order but onely to defend the Cities, and that ſome of them as herebefore I have ſaid, had named the foreſaid procedures by the *French* in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, a chaſtiſement which *Spain* had well deſerved, and a remedy whereby the King of *Spain* would be obliged to ſubmit to the Will of the King of *France*, and thereby it may be deduced that it is eaſily to be believed that thoſe propoſitions iſſued from thoſe who were poſſeſſed with ſuch an ill will againſt *Spain*, and ſo great a good will for *France*, that all thoſe horrid actions committed in the foreſaid *Netherlands* were onely palliated with the names of chaſtiſements, and looked on as remedies to force *Spain* to agree to the Will of *France*; and you are not ignorant how often they in the Aſſembly of the States by their publick advices have ſaid that they muſt neceſſitate *Spain* to yield to one of the *French Poſtulata*. And that they have more and more explained themſelves that they thereby underſtood that in relation thereto means muſt be uſed to conſtrain them and make them ſenſible.

That it is alſo true that the Lords of *Amſterdam* have deſired that that which *France* had to propoſe might be publick to all the World, thereby to gain their advantage on thoſe who were ignorant, may hereby appear; that when in the Aſſembly of *Holland* they had deliberated on the means of Secreſie which ſhould be obſerved in the Treaties ſet on foot with the Allies concerning the means of an accommodation, the Lords of *Amſterdam* had openly ſaid, that they would not conſent therein, becauſe they would

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be over-voted by all the other diſſenting Members in the negotiation of that affair, that in that ſame matter they might not make any notes nor relate to others what paſſed therein, and that therefore they rather would the ſame ſhould paſs through a number of above 400 perſons than paſs through a few; out of which, according to my judgment nothing elſe is to be concluded, but that the Lords of *Amſterdam* finding themſelves in their opinion ſingular, and that all the other Members meeting in the Aſſembly much blamed their conduct, though that by thoſe who did not there appear, but daily heard and ſaw what was there deliberated on, and who could not ſo well be informed of all things as the others, they would reap more benefit by an abuſive information given them; and to raiſe an agitation in the minds of the Regents and other inhabitants under that pleaſing pretence of Peace and Freedom from extraordinary Taxes, and that they could not ſo well ſerve themſelves thereof when they muſt onely ſpeak to thoſe who were as well informed of theſe matters as themſelves, and could on all occaſions undeniably convince them of their abuſes and wrong propoſitions. For that the Allegation which they made, that this negotiation was of that importance, that the whole Government ought to have cognizance thereof, was but a pretence, will not onely appear that the buſineſs wherein the foreſaid Secreſie ſhould have been uſed, ſhould have onely been preparatory, and not that the Lords thereto appointed ſhould have concluded ought finally without the States of the reſpective Provinces, or thoſe who ſhould be thereunto by them authorized after a full account of what in that affair had paſſed, and with full and conſiderate deliberation ſhould have reſolved and determined what they ſhould have judged to conſiſt with the ſervice of the Republick; which deſign and intention of theirs appeareth undeniably, that they themſelves propoſed that when the other

other Members would conform to their ſentiments, and would joyn with them for the furtherance of a peace, they by writing declared to conſent to leave the direction thereof to a very few perſons, ſo that no importance in the negotiation, publick or ſecret direction and ordering concerning the furthering thereof, cometh in conſideration, but onely whether the other Members will agree to the ſentiments of the Lords of *Amſterdam*, and then all may paſs, but when that cannot be aſſented to, although all the other Members agree in one ſentiment, nothing muſt paſs how rational ſoever it be, and on whatſoever foregoing examples and practice it may be founded; and concerning the earneſtneſs and endeavours they have uſed with the other Cities, I need not mention they being ſo known that the Lords of *Amſterdam* could not deny it; alſo neither the earneſtneſs and endeavours they uſed with the Lord Deputies of the Provinces of *Frieſland* and City and County: You alſo well know that hitherto the Lords of *Amſterdam* have not conſented to the ordinary and extraordinary State of War, that they might make it appear that it was true which they had promiſed the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, that if all things ſucceeded to their mind, it would rather be endeavoured to diſcharge, than to raiſe new Forces, and that when ſome of the Members of the Aſſembly about that time ſpoke with the Lord Penſionary Councellor of *Holland* concerning the Declaration which the King of *France* ſhould make to attack no Cities, but onely to execute upon the open Countrey till they ſhould be agreed about a Peace between the two Crowns; the ſaid Lord Penſionary Councellor ſhould have asked theſe Members how and from whence thoſe Cities ſhould be thus ſupplied when the open Countrey was thus ruined, for that it was clear theſe Cities could not ſubſiſt without the open Countrey, and ſo muſt of themſelves fall into the hands of the King of *France*.

What farther is contained in the ſaid Letter concerning the deſigned Levy, and the oppoſition of the Lords of *Amſterdam* againſt it; It alſo is true and known, that to hinder the ſame, the Lords of *Amſterdam* have uſed all poſſible endeavours, that I need to ſpeak no farther thereof, but I could never have thought that they had done it, induced by the good intentions the King of *France* declared to have towards them, and ſtrengthened by the means which were propounded to them, if the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour had not ſo plainly expreſſed the ſame in the ſaid Letter; and I am the more convinc'd of the truth of the whole contents of the Letter when I remark, firſt that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had often asked from whence thoſe Solicitours would get money, when the raiſing of the Forces would be begun without their conſent, and that they in the Aſſembly of the States have by propoſition asked who ſhould bear the charges of the foreſaid Levy, when they conſented not therein; and ſecondly, that it is true that the *Heer Van Haren* extraordinary Embaſſadour of this State to the Court of *Sweden*, then being here in the *Hague*, and ſpeaking with his Highneſs concerning the neceſſity of the ſaid Levies, and complaining that the deliberations concerning the ſame, proceeded ſo ſlowly, and that the oppoſition of the Lords of *Amſterdam* againſt the ſaid Levy much hindred the conſent of the other Provinces; whereupon his Highneſs anſwered, that he hoped that the Members in *Holland* would make an end thereof, and in few days bring it to a concluſion if poſſible, with aſſent, if not without the aſſent of *Amſterdam*, ſince the Country muſt not be deprived of their defence for obſtinateneſs of one Member; and laſtly concerning that the ſaid Embaſſadour writeth, *viz.* that he as yet deſired not to know of his Majeſty what ſecurity he ſhould demand of the Lords of *Amſterdam* in caſe they could not move the States to conſent to thoſe things his Majeſty

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desired of them, because he knew not what therein his Majestie's intentions might be, that he the Lord Embassadour could onely say, that the Lords of *Amsterdam* had thereupon not yet explained themselves to him, and that they had expressly said to him, that they were remedies to which no recourse ought to be had but in the utmost extremity, that they would not speak to him concerning the same, till they had lost all hope to give to his Majesty by the States that security which ought to be given him, which they yet imagined to be able to effect, and though I readily yield that to be very hardly believed, that the Lords of *Amsterdam* should be able to arrive to such an extravagancy, yet I must confess I ought not to doubt thereof, when I consider not onely the discourses which the said Members at this time often have maintained, namely, that if they were not consented to, that they then must consider their own security; yea, that they also so far expresst themselves that when the other Members required that the matter of the Levy should be brought to a conclusion, that they in their turn giving in their advice in the Assembly of the States publickly had dared to say, that they understood not to remain in a Society wherein they enjoyed not the right of that Society, not considering that the Body of the Sovereignty of *Holland* and *West-Friesland* was not brought together as particular Members united by special contract, as the union of *Utrecht* brought the several Provinces together, but in a manner, of which no particular account can be given, onely that in the old Histories it is said, that the City of *Amsterdam* in its beginning was under the power and direction of particular Lords, who were also at that time Subjects to the Earls of *Holland*; whereas the ancient Histories mention not that several other Cities were under the like subjection to other Lords also subject, but immediately under the Earls of *Holland*, and have thus immediately from the beginning

compoſed the Body of the States, whereas the City of *Amſterdam* could not enjoy that honour during they were under thoſe particular ſubject Lords; beſides that every one muſt think it ſtrange that the Lords of *Amſterdam* complaining that the ſaid Levy was concluded without their conſent, and would ſay that the right of the Society was not yielded them, whereas the Body of the Sovereignty of *Holland* and *Weſt-Frieſland* being obliged for the conſervation of their Religion and Freedom to the Land to their utmoſt power; that the Lords of *Amſterdam* by a ſtrange obſtinateneſs refuſed to help to provide what all the other its Members judged indiſpenſably neceſſary for their common defence, and in a time when all their Neighbours round about ſtrongly armed, did more and more ſtrengthen themſelves by new Levies, and all the friends of this State had their eyes on the reſolutions of this State, for the defence of it ſelf againſt oppreſſion and over-ruling, and with God's bleſſing to free itſelf therefrom; and of which in that ſad year of 1672. they had experimented ſo great and ſenſible a ſufferance, for having neglected the putting themſelves in a poſture of defence.

I ſuppoſe in what hath been ſaid, I have clearly ſhewed that what the ſaid Embaſſadour hath expreſt in the ſaid Letter, is not onely very probable, but as evident as things of that nature can be made, and that there is therein no farther cauſe of doubt when it may be ſeen what ſince the writing of the aforeſaid Letter by the forementioned Embaſſadour farther hath been done, namely, that the ſaid Embaſſadour having by the aforeſaid Letter earneſtly deſired that his Majeſty would give him ſome permiſſion to preſent Memorials, and particularly that he ſhould not need therein to expreſs of the not making the ſaid Levy; and that he might therein uſe ſome ſweetnings in conſideration of the open Countrey of the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, firſt by a Memorial

Memorial the Nineteenth of this Month, preſented to the States, hath declared that he would take it on himſelf to grant ſome time to bring the *Spaniards* to an accommodation on the conditions propoſed by his Majeſty, if they would promiſe his Majeſty to remain in the State wherein they were without making any ſteps which might make the *Spaniards* more obſtinate by the hopes of a new and greater ſuccour: and then afterwards, firſt in a Conference (which he willingly would have had on the Sixteenth of the ſaid Month, but which was had on the Seventeenth, for that the Deputies of *Holland* who were alſo to be at the ſame, aſſiſted on the aforeſaid Sixteenth of *February*, at the deliberation which then was had in *Holland* on the aforeſaid Letter of the Lord Embaſſadour) and hath afterwards declared by a Memorial, that in caſe the States would engage to cauſe *Spain* to agree within two or three Months to one of the Equivalents contained in the aforeſaid Memorial of the Fifth of *November* laſt, or a Truce of Twenty years, that his Majeſty would ceaſe all Hoſtilities againſt the Crown of *Spain*, but ſo that if the *Spaniards* ſhould ſuffer thoſe two or three Months to run out without effect, that then the States ſhould cauſe that their Troups now in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* ſhould not be otherwiſe employed than in defence of the places his Majeſty of *Spain* there poſſeſſeth, that they alſo ſhould promiſe to give no where elſe any aſſiſtence to *Spain* againſt his Majeſty of *France* or his Allyes, and that then *France* would promiſe to Beſiege or take no places in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, yea not to act the War any more on the open Countrey on condition that *Spain* ſhould alſo obſerve the ſame, and reſerving to himſelf to uſe his Arms elſewhere till that Crown ſhould compoſe the Peace which it had broken. Or if the States would not oblige themſelves thereto, and would onely uſe earneſt endeavours to preſs *Spain* to a friendly accommodation, that

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alſo in ſuch a caſe his Majeſty would yield to a Ceſſation of Arms in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* as long as the preſent War ſhould laſt, and alſo promiſe neither by Siege or otherwiſe to make himſelf Maſter of any places in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*; provided that the States on the contrary ſhould oblige themſelves not onely that their Troups in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* ſhould onely be employed for defence of the places in the ſaid *Netherlands*, but that alſo they ſhould give *Spain* no farther aſſiſtance in any other place whatſoever, nor to act directly nor indirectly againſt his Majeſty or his Allies; and that alſo his Majeſty would oblige himſelf to perform no acts of Hoſtility in the foreſaid *Spaniſh Netherlands*, provided *Spain* ſhall from the ſaid *Netherlands* act no Hoſtility againſt him, or if it would there continue the War, that his Majeſty would then continue it there onely againſt the open Countrey, for what can better agree with what the Lords of *Amſterdam* had diſcourſed with the Lord Embaſſadour, they ſay there muſt be no ſpeech of making no new Levies, but to leave matters in the ſame ſtate they were in? He doth alſo the ſame by his firſt Memorial. They ſay there ſhould be a Ceſſation of Hoſtility againſt the Cities in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, provided that the State meddle not with the Quarrel elſewhere, or elſewhere help *Spain*, he doth ſo likewiſe, and for that he feared it would offend, that that Ceſſation of Hoſtility ſhould not extend to the benefit of the open Countrey; he profereth the ſame alſo for ſo much as concerneth the open countrey, if *Spain* on its part will not from the *Netherlands* act ought on the open countrey of the *French*. He preſenteth alſo thoſe Memorials as late as he can, and then when he judgeth that he would be thereby fitted to ſupport the Lords of *Amſterdam* in their deſigns, ſo that none before-hand not prejudiced, can deny or doubt in his mind that what is contained in the aforeſaid Letter is in

truth

truth for ſo much as concerneth the eſſential part, not come to paſs and effected.

That being ſo, we may conſider whether the Lords of *Amſterdam* may not be ſaid to have there in done amiſs, yea greatly done amiſs. I believe not that the ſaid Lords will themſelves call in doubt that what is ſaid in the foreſaid Letter to have been done by them ſhould not contain offences hurtfull in the utmoſt to the greatneſs and juſtneſs of the State, and the welfare thereof, and capable to cauſe the ruine of the Countrey; for what can be more hurtfull and hinderſome to the State that at this time (when we ſhould endeavour either an accommodation between parties at War together, or muſt experience the loſs of the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, or to fall in difference concerning the ſame with the King of *France*, and that as well the loſs of the *Spaniſh Netherlands* as the falling at odds with the King of *France*, would be very prejudicical to the State) they ſhould particulary diſcover to the King of *France*, or that which is the ſame to his Embaſſadour the difference which was in the State between the Members thereof about finding out means of accommodation; that the one was of advice, that to put our ſelves in ſecurity of not being ſurprized, was by raiſing a greater number of *Militia*, and then to ſpeak and endeavour for a good and laſting accommodation; and that others adviſed that without providing any means of Defence, they muſt blindfold help to execute what *France* deſired of *Spain*. That the Lords of *Amſterdam* ſaid they would never yield to a Levy, but to doe what might be done to oblige *Spain* to accept one of the *French* propoſals, for that theſe communications could indeed be of no other effect than more and more to encourage *France* to yield in nothing of what he pretended, and to draw *Spain* more and more off, and make him averſe from all that by this State ſhould be propoſed to him to the furtherance of a Peace; for ſince the

the mediation of the Peace depended not on the will of this State, but on the approbation of *Spain*, for that all what *France* pretendeth whether out of the head of his firſt propoſal, or by conſequence of the Equivalents, whereof was pertaining to *Spain*, and by that King muſt be yielded, and that *Spain* was ſo perſwaded that that which *France* demanded was ſo unjuſt, that *Spain* deſired that his Allies together would examine whether the foreſaid pretenſions were founded on reaſon, adding, that if they ſhould judge the ſaid pretenſions were juſt, he would much yield in ſuch a caſe to the judgment of his Allies, we could in ſuch a caſe never make this State more unfit to uſe endeavours with *Spain* for an accommodation, than to declare to *France* that we ſhould force *Spain* to the acceptance of one of the aforeſaid propoſitions, that we inceſſantly endeavoured the ſame, employing all our credit to make diſputes in the Cities, and alſo withhold what in caſe of need might ſerve us in ſome meaſure to defend the State, to wit the Levy of the foreſaid Men. And what could more move *France* to yield nothing, as being aſcertained, not from without or from ſome out of the Government, but of ſuch a conſiderable Member of the ſame Government, that the ſaid Member uſed its utmoſt endeavours with an incredible zeal and application to bring *Spain* to accept one of the foreſaid propoſals, and to withhold that which in any manner might ſerve to put off the firſt puſh, if no accommodation could have been made with *France*, which was the foreſaid new Levies, ſince *France* was thereby aſſured that *Spain* muſt either yield to the aforeſaid conditions, or that otherwiſe he finding *Spain* and this State without any power to reſiſt, and giving him all opportunity with the approaching Spring to ſettle and bring to effect his deſigns to poſſeſs himſelf not onely of the foreſaid *Netherlands*, but alſo of this State; I leave it to the judgment of wiſer perſons, if this be not

criminal

criminal and deſerving puniſhment in the higheſt, for that it hurteth to the utmoſt the ſecurity of the State, by diſcovering the weakneſs thereof to thoſe whom the State ought chiefly to fear, and animated them withall not to diminiſh of his demands, and put a ſufficient opportunity into his hands of carrying the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, to the utmoſt detriment of this State, if not this State it ſelf at laſt. Secondly it appeareth by the aforeſoid Letter, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* in conſult with the *French* Embaſſadour, and animated by the kindneſs the King of *France* pretendeth to have for them, and fortified by the means he propoſed to them, had openly withſtood the ſaid Levy and cauſed many Diſputes in ſeveral of the Cities concerning the ſame; you may, Sir, hereby judge whether it be not criminal to raiſe diſputes among the Members of the Aſſembly, and animated thereto by the ſervice a Foreign Prince pretendeth they doe him therein, and ſtrengthned by the means which that Foreign Prince propoſeth; yea, and that of a Prince who by his Forces hath attacked an Allye of this State, in a place in which the State hath ſo ſenſible an intereſt, and whither the State hath ſent aſſiſtence to that Allye ſo attacked, and theſe ſaid aſſiſting Troups are actually employed to the aſſiſtence of the Attacked againſt the Attacker, and that theſe diſputes are occaſions to put and keep the State out of a poſture of needfull defence.

Thirdly, That the Lords of *Amſterdam* have, if not perſonally, yet openly concerted with the *French* Embaſſadour concerning overtures whereby this State ſhould be engaged either to force *Spain* to accept one of the *French* propoſals, or to deſert them on condition onely that *France* ſhould leave the places in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* unattacked and continue to moleſt the open Countrey with Quarterings and Contributions; that they had earneſtly inſiſted that he would preſent a Memorial to that effect whereby they would be

in a condition to effect the buſineſs; if that be not alſo criminal and puniſhable in the higheſt degree, I willingly leave to the cenſure of wiſer and ſharper judgments. I very well know how that matter was reſented in the year 1666. and what Letters ſome Miniſters of this State, being then in *France*, have written notwithſtanding that what then paſſed hath no more compariſon with this preſent affair, than a Gnat to an Elephant; for what can be more hurtfull and diſadvantageous to the greatneſs of this State, than that a Member of one Province by particular authority, without knowledge of its other Fellow Members, ſhould in ſuch a manner deal with a Foreign Prince who hath Attacked one of the Allyes of the State, who muſt be aſſiſted by that State, and is already actually aſſiſted, and ſhould confer with that Foreign Prince, not onely to make ineffectual, but even to break the Treaty the State hath made with the Attacked? where is it (wherein the State muſt find its ſecurity, (as the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* have often ſaid) by Allyances and Contracts with Foreign Princes againſt the over power of others, which by their own power they cannot effect;) and what can bring ſuch Allyances and contracts in more diſcredit with Foreign Princes, than that they ſhall perceive that it is in the power of one Province, yea, of one Member of a Province by its own *Capricio* to make ineffectual Treaties ſolemnly made, or to withhold the effect thereof? and how can it be born by the Supreme Authority, that whereas by the conſtitution of the Government of theſe Countreys, one Province alone (how Sovereign ſoever it be) cannot enter into Treaties with Foreign Princes; that one Member of a Province, to wit, the Lords of *Amſterdam* ſhall propoſe or at leaſt concert with the ſaid Embaſſadour without knowledge of the Government concerning ſuch overtures of accommodation

commodation, and desire him to propose the same by a Memorial, and that they hope by that means to bring them to effect? I will not now speak of the Proposals themselves so dishonourable and so unfit, that every one that hath yet remaining in him but a small portion of Fidelity and Honour, must have for the same the utmost abhorrence; for what can be more dishonourably imagined, than that this State which is obliged to defend *Spain* against unjust Force, should by a publick Treaty oblige it self to force *Spain* to that which *France* alone by force and over power acquireth of *Spain* (as *Spain* says) and not by Right and Justice, and that in a time when *Spain* will permit this State to examine the justice or injustice of the *French* pretensions, or if they could not arrive thereto, that by a publick Treaty they should oblige themselves to give *Spain* over to the will of *France*; and that in all parts of the World *France* might at his pleasure exercise all force and wrong on *Spain*, onely that the Cities in the *Spanish Netherlands* might not be Attacked, yea, that in the same *Netherlands* they might act on the open Countrey these horrible sorts of executions of which in former Wars hath not been heard? In truth if this conduct of affairs had not been so publickly and clearly seen, it could not be imagined that such a Government as is that of *Amsterdam* should have arrived so far, to give so evident a proof of a perfidiousness so great and unheard of. I cannot deny that it may sometimes have happened that one hath left his Friend and Allye in need, and although it be very ill done, and that God hath often sadly punished such perfidiousness, yet hath the deserter always found or made a pretence to colour that his saying, that he could no longer assist his Friend; but so far as I can remember no instance can be found that a Prince or State without any the least reason should oblige himself by a particular Treaty, to force his Friend to yield to what is unjustly

required of him or to give him over, to the pleaſure of his oppoſite party, when the oppoſite party hath not put that his pleaſure in execution in preſence of the deſerter of his Friend; beſides that when that ſcandalous and diſhonourable dealing could not produce that expected effect, for that *Spain* finding it ſelf treated in ſuch a baſe manner onely that the *Spaniſh Netherlands* might remain ſafe, and that thereby the War would but the more furiouſly be tranſported to his other Countries and Kingdoms would ſoon find means to ſecure himſelf from that danger by a yielding over or changing theſe Countreys which they deſire to preſerve in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, for that which *Spain* in former Wars had now or formerly loſt.

Fourthly, It appeareth by the foreſaid Letter that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had ſpoke with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour concerning the ſecurity which they in particular were to give, if the State ſhould not approve to yield thoſe matters his Majeſty had propoſed. You may, Sir, eaſily conceive that this is not a leſs but at leaſt as great a crime as any of the forementioned, for how can it agree with the Majeſty of the State, that one of the Members of the ſame ſhould give ſecurity to a Foreign Prince to effect that the State ſhould grant thoſe conditions which the ſaid Foreign Prince deſireth of them, yea, how can it be ſuffered by a Sovereign State, that one of the Members ſhall comprehend all the reſt, or if that cannot be effected, ſhall engage it ſelf to agree apart concerning other particular Securities which this Member ſhould then give to a Foreign Prince?

Laſtly, by the ſaid Letter it alſo appeareth, that the deſign on foot to cauſe the ſaid Embaſſadour to preſent the foreſaid Memorial, was to raiſe the good Subjects againſt the Government, as if the Government were inclined to the War,

War, and that the King of *France* preſented and proffered Peace, and that the City of *Amſterdam* lending thereto their helping hand, ſought to evade the War, and that his Highneſs and the other Members who in that matter could not joyn with the Lords of *Amſterdam* ſought to engage the State in a ſad and deplorable War, whereas his Highneſs and all the Members compoſing the Aſſembly of States have often declared with the utmoſt ſincerity, that they deſigned nothing elſe than if it were any ways poſſible to help to allay theſe differences by an accommodation, which according to the preſent conſtitution of times and matters might be in any manner eſteemed honourable and ſecure; and that they would concerning the ſame, enter into Conference with *Spain*, and the other their high Allyes, ſince unto *Spain* belonged that which ſhould be ſacrificed to the Peace; and that by the aforeſaid written Letter no ſecurity for Peace was made, neither could be, if it were not ſecured by a good Guaranty of other Princes and States, and that for the obtaining that Guaranty there was nothing to be expected or hoped, if concerning that Peace there were no conſultation with the ſaid high Allyes, and they induced to the conditions thereof, yea, to hear all the Members who frequented the Aſſembly; alſo the Lords deputed of the City of *Amſterdam* have often been neceſſitated to acknowledge that all the meaſures his Highneſs took were towards a Peace, and that his Highneſs had not given to any of them reaſons to ſuſpect that he was not inclined to a Peace: And, Sir, you know what reaſon I have to be well perſwaded, that the Peace had been long ſince attained, at leaſt would have been much furthered, and that the inhabitants of the Country would have had much leſs trouble if the Lords of *Amſterdam* by their conduct had not given *France* cauſe to hope to obtain better conditions than could be effected, and had thereby made on the one ſide all coun-

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cel and inducement, which could have been made with *Spain* invalid, and on the other ſide ſtirr'd up *France* to yield nothing, and to quit nothing of his Demands and Propoſals by him made as conditions of Peace; yea, Sir, you well know that when here in the *Hague* entrance was made into a Treaty with *Spain*, and the other high Allyes who had here expreſly their Miniſters to enter into a Conference of Propoſals for accommodation, that on the part of the Lords of *Amſterdam* in the Aſſembly of the States, where (in conſideration of the confidence and ſecurity which ſhould be among Allyes and friends, having one and the ſame deſign) then concerning the keeping ſecret, not of that which ſhould be brought to a concluſion, for that was proffered to be made known when it was proper, but of that which in that Conference might happen, yet without concluding; and then concerning many Queſtions, Speculations and the like, which could not but cauſe a great ſuſpicion, and alienate the minds of the high Allyes, from one another, there hath often ſuch Propoſitions iſſued forth from which nothing elſe could be concluded but that the Lords of *Amſterdam* muſt have had a deſign to ſmother the ſaid Conference in the beginning, and to make it fruitleſs; and that the other Members of the States Aſſembly were in this their conduct, and ſo acting much diſſatisfied, and have much blamed them all, none excepted.

I muſt, Sir, ask you whether a rational man, and who is a lover of the welfare of his Countrey, and of that Religion and freedom in ſo great eſteem with our Forefathers ſhall be found, who ſeeing ſuch a Letter written by an Embaſſadour, who hath managed the affairs of his Maſter in this Countrey ſo many years, and hath been before employed in the like affairs, ſeeing and knowing that what is written in the ſaid Letter ſo well agreeth with that which hath happened and was tranſacted even by the ſaid Lords

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of *Amſterdam* as here before at large I have demonſtrated and knowing that that which was contained in the ſaid Letter, if it agreed with the truth, was in the higheſt criminal and puniſhable, and that this Republick could not ſubſiſt, but muſt periſh if ſuch tranſactions were tolerated that every Member who could not in Aſſembly effect the matter to his deſire, might concert with the Miniſters of Foreign Princes, and joyn with them, and conclude how beſt to oblige the other Members thereto, would not doe at leaſt ſo much as to contribute what could be thought thereof to attain the truth contained in that Letter, and ſince it could from nowhere elſe better appear than out of the Papers which poſſibly might be found in the Lodgings of the Lords of *Amſterdam* here in the *Hague*, and in the Chamber of the Lord Councellor Penſionary *Hop*, who had for the moſt part held the conferences with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, and where the Members knew that the Lords of *Amſterdam* had cauſed the continuance of thoſe Conferences, notwithſtanding the other Members had demonſtrated to be offended and ſcandalized thereat, whether they were not alſo obliged to take care that thoſe Papers ſhould be ſealed, to the end the States, after all the deputed Lords ſhould have made their report to the Lords their Principals, might be in condition to deliberate and reſolve on what they ſhould find expedient to have done or left therein, for that is all that hitherto hath been done, or ordained by the States, *viz.* that the foreſaid overture which his Highneſs ſhould make, ſhould be received with cloſed doors, that the mentioned Lords *Hooft* and *Hop* ſhould abſent while his Highneſs made the ſame overture, that the foreſaid Papers ſhould be ſealed up, that the whole overture ſhould be kept Secret, except that thereof was to be given notice to the Councils of the ſeveral Cities, and of the ſealing of them onely to the Lords Burgomaſters

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and all this upon Oath, that the ſaid matter might be managed with as little noiſe as was poſſible, till the reſpective Burgomaſters and Councils having had knowledge of all things might diſpoſe of Affairs, and if the Lords Burgomaſters and Council of the foreſaid City, had not onely been the firſt who had writ their foreſaid Letter to the other Members, but alſo connived at the publick Printing thereof, the aforeſaid matter might have been as little noiſed abroad as other matters which in the like manner were debated in the Aſſembly with ſhut doors in ſecret, and without noiſe. But it is ſaid that hereby is deminiſhed the freedom and ſecurity which thoſe Deputies who were in the Aſſembly ought to enjoy as to their perſons and Papers: For what concerneth the perſons, the complaint is yet too unripe, for againſt the perſons of the ſaid Lords Deputies hath nothing been determined, but I would have asked whether thoſe who are deputed to the Aſſembly have thereby a licence to commit and act whatſoever they think good without being for the ſame ſearched or puniſhed; I believe not that it will be ſaid by any, at leaſt thoſe that would ſay it, muſt then ſuppoſe that thoſe deputed to ſuch an Aſſembly might alſo ſell their Countrey to the Enemy; and that the Aſſembly of States which is deſigned for the good of the Countrey, and is ſo needfull and ſerviceable for the peace and conſervation of the ſame, might produce the hurtfulleſt effects to the ſaid Countrey without means of puniſhing ſuch evil doers, and thoſe who abuſed the freedom of ſuch an Aſſembly in ſuch an unfit and diſhonourable way; but that being otherwiſe, and the foreſaid Aſſembly being onely deſigned to prevent any ill effect that might accrue to the Commonwealth, therefore thoſe who under pretence of ſuch an Aſſembly, and that they are Members thereof when they ſhall come to contrive ſuch matters as onely tend to the ſubverſion of the liberty, and the ruine of their

Countrey

Countrey muſt not think they may evade by a fair pretence of liberty and freedom, the ſearch which their Lawfull and Sovereign Authority doth reſolve to make; but it is ſaid the Lords of *Amſterdam* were not admitted to make their Defence in relation to the contents of the ſaid Letter. But I leave it to your judgment how juſtly this is objected, for the Lords of *Amſterdam* complain now that the Nobility and the other Deputies, whereof the Aſſembly of the States was then compoſed, did reſolve to ſeal up thoſe Papers, the ſealing up whereof was performed in that manner, which was leaſt offenſive, the ſame ſealing up of them being onely a mere ſecuring of them, and had no communication with any criminal proceſs; The Lords Deputies leaving all matters as they were, that when the reſpective Councels of the Cities ſhould have had cogniſance of what had paſſed, they might deliberate what was to be done, *viz.* whether they ſhould proceed to a farther examination either of the foreſaid ſealed Papers, or to hear and examine thoſe who had held thoſe Conferences with the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, and alſo of others who might be detected to have had knowledge thereof. If they had proceeded to the hearing of the ſaid Lords, would it not then have been ſaid that the Aſſembly of the States had deſigned to begin a criminal proceſs by the examination of the ſaid Lords which the ſaid Aſſembly ought not to doe, it being no ſeat of Juſtice? and what more might be ſaid to that purpoſe. It is further ſaid concerning the forementioned Lords of *Amſterdam*, that this Letter was writ by a Foreign Miniſter, which could import nothing to the hurt of a third Perſon; but it was alſo true that the Writer thereof was an Embaſſadour who gave an account to his King, and who was obliged to give that account in the beſt and trueſt manner; it appeared alſo out of that Letter how neatly he therein diſtinguiſhed what the Lords of *Amſterdam* had con-

certed with him what they had propoſed to him, and what they had undertaken to effect and further what was known to him of the matter under diſpute, whatſoever ſenſe he had thereof, the duties he had to obſerve with them, and the duty in which he was obliged to his Maſter, and eſpecially that his Majeſty was therein in the higheſt concerned, that he might know and be well informed of all what paſſed here, and that he therefore to know his Majeſty's intentions on what he had written, had ſent the ſaid Letter with an expreſs; he was alſo a Miniſter who kept with the Lords of *Amſterdam* a perfect friendſhip and correſpondency, who by their councel had been to confer with the other Members of the Aſſembly, and again with whom the Lords of *Amſterdam* uſed ſo great confidence that they would rather load on themſelves the ſcandal and the ſuſpicion of the other Members of the States Aſſembly than to miſs the ſaid converſation; but it is ſaid the deſign was Peace, and all the Members profeſſed their inclination thereto, and it was not prohibited to correſpond with ſuch Foreign Miniſters whoſe Maſters were in friendſhip with this State. As concerning the matter of the Peace I have ſpoken before, and alſo ſhewed it to be a *Crimen læſæ Majeſtatis* in the firſt and higheſt degree to undertake ſuch negotiations as are mentioned in the ſaid Letter which the Lords of *Amſterdam* had held with the ſaid Lord the *French* Embaſſadour; it cannot alſo not be thought by any one that it ſhould be lawfull in a State obliged to one another in ſuch manner, and compoſing one body of Government as doth this State, that one Member of one of the Members of that Body ſhould comprehend all the other Members in matters of Peace, wherein all the others cannot comprehend that one Member; and I would that any one were found ſo underſtanding and ſharp witted who ſhould then tell me what a Government we had in this Countrey, where was the Sovereign Power lodged, and

with

with whom men had to treat and contract, and how far might extend the Capricios of one Member who deſigneth to diſtinguiſh it ſelf from all the other Members, each of which hath the ſame right with this Member, and who eſteem themſelves as good Patriots of their Countrey, as that one Member, and to be as much inclined to Peace as that one ſeparate Member, and who would treat and contract with a Government conſtituted in that manner. I will not now enter into the Examination, whether and how far Members of the ſame Government may undertake to correſpond with Miniſters of Foreign Princes, and how that is underſtood in this Republick, but I will onely ſay that I have ſeen when the Queen of *England* in the year 1588. endeavoured to treat of Peace with *Spain*, and that in that matter there was there in this Countrey no ſmall diſagreement in the Aſſembly of *Holland*, that the Members thereof were not onely obliged to abſtain from all correſpondence, but were alſo obliged to diſcover all what occurred to them even from that Queen or any one whomſoever of her Miniſters, notwithſtanding we were in a very ſtrict Allyance with her Majeſty, and had from her Majeſty an actual aſſiſtence, and had alſo two Councellors of her Majeſty preſent in our Council of State, to whom then the greateſt part of the direction of Affairs was imparted; but the matter is not whether any Member of the State keep correſpondence with a Foreign Miniſter, but whether it may be permitted to any Member of the Government whatſoever to keep ſuch correſpondences as are mentioned in the foreſaid Letter. It is further ſaid that it was onely uncifered, and which the Marquis *de Grana* had ſent, 'tis true it was ſent by the Marquis *de Grana* as having intercepted it, and conceived the State to be ſo much concerned therein, that it ought to know what was here contriving to the detriment of the Publick, but the ſaid Marquis *de Grana* whoſe uprightneſs

ſome would queſtion, hath proceeded therein with that candour that he alſo ſent hither the Key whereby he uncifered the Letter, that it might appear by what Rule they uncifered the ſame, and that it was impoſſible to feign the like, as they now endeavour to make it ſuſpected.

To which is added, that the Lords deputed from *Amſterdam* to the Aſſembly of *States* having underſtood that the Lord Embaſſadour had ſome Propoſals to make, whereby the Peace in the *Spaniſh Netherlands* and between *France* and this State might be preſerved, and that he was deſirous to confer with them concerning the ſame; that they had made report thereof to the Lords their Principals with many circumſtances, who had eſpecially charged them to have a nearer Conference with the Lord Embaſſadour concerning the ſame, and oblige him to give notice thereof to the Members, and eſpecially to the Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland*, as the Miniſter of the Lords the Nobles, and that the ſaid Lords deputed of the ſaid City of *Amſterdam* had alſo given notice thereof to the ſaid Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland*; but hereon I will firſt ask wherefore the Lords deputed from *Amſterdam* were ſo ſcrupulous to hear and receive ſuch Propoſals of the ſaid Embaſſadour, if there had been nothing elſe to treat between them, and that they charged the other Members who had no order from their Principals with the having viſited the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour, and to have heard the ſaid Propoſals of him, for they ſay that they were thoſe, who would have had that they ſhould alſo ſpeak to the other Members, whereas before they had made no difficulty to ſpeak to ſo many other Foreign Miniſters, without having had ſuch ſpecial charge from their Principals, and ſaid with ſo much aſſurance even againſt the diſpleaſure therein of the other Members, they both ſhould and would continue the ſaid Conferences with the ſaid Embaſſadour, and notwithſtanding the foreſaid narration

narration of that Conference is clearly and at large made appear, even as if the ſaid Lords Deputies had given to the States in the Aſſembly a full and perfect knowledge and information thereof, whereas all thoſe know who have been in that Aſſembly, that the ſaid Lords had given to the ſaid Aſſembly, not the leaſt knowledge thereof: what here and there they might by particular diſcourſes have ſaid to ſome one or other of the particular Members I know not; it may be they may have to every one given ſuch an overture thereof as they thought might ſerve their deſign. You know, Sir, that the Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland* hath ſaid more than once, that the ſaid Lords deputed had not in the leaſt made him acquainted therewith, but onely that the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour had alſo ſaid to him the Lord Councellor Penſionary in the aforeſaid Viſit, that in caſe the Lords the States would treat to preſerve the Peace in the *Spaniſh Netherlands*, and leave his Majeſty free to further his pretenſions on *Spain* elſewhere, and that they would engage themſelves in ſuch a caſe to afford no aſſiſtance to *Spain*, that his Majeſty would not be averſe thereto; and that the ſaid Lord Councellor Penſionary of *Holland* had anſwered either to the ſaid deputed Lords, or to the ſaid Lord Penſionary *Hop*, that there could be no deliberation had concerning the ſame before a Memorial to that effect was preſented, and that it would occaſion a very honourable name to this Republick, with all Foreign Princes, if we ſhould ſo deal with thoſe with whom we were in Alyance: and you know, Sir, that the ſaid Lord Penſionary of *Holland* hath alſo often declared that the ſaid Lords deputed except that one time, and in that manner had never given him any other information of the ſaid overture of the ſaid Treaties and Conferences. The ſaid Lord Penſionary of *Holland* hath not to my knowledge ever pretended that the Lords of *Amſterdam* were obliged to give him any ac-

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count of what they did, and it will therefore appear as ſtrange to him as to any other, that the ſaid Lords did now appeal to the knowledge they ſhould have given him thereof. What is further ſaid of the cutting off of correſpondence with foreign Miniſters; I know that to have proceeded from the ſo much offending Conferences, which the ſaid Lords deputed had with the forementioned Lord Embaſſadour. You alſo know, Sir, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* have explain'd themſelves thereon to the Aſſembly, in a manner ſo irreverently, that all the Members thereof were thereat highly offended, however none then knew or could ſurmiſe from whence that proceeded, and what was then ordered concerning the diſcourſe relating to the ſhip *La Reigle*, and that on the 8th of *January* laſt, the ſaid Lords deputed had ſpoken with the forementioned Lord Embaſſadour, ſheweth clearly the deſign contrived with him concerning the foreſaid matter of which before larger mention is made, and alſo how abuſively and captiouſly, they would excuſe themſelves for having held the ſaid Conferences mentioned in the ſaid Letter, when the ſaid Lord Penſionary of *Holland* miſtaking in the date, ſaid, that the foreſaid Conference ſhould have been held on the 9th, whereas it was held on the 8th as is noted in the ſaid Letter; and it is not a little remarkable that the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* having firſt ſaid, that the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour of *France* had not urged them to enter into any concern or particular engagement, they notwithſtanding in the ſame breath add, that he the Lord Embaſſadour having pretended to be ſecured by word of mouth of the conſtant inclination of that Government to the Peace, and that they would enter into the expedients by him propoſed, that they had often roundly refuſed it notwithſtanding he expreſt his diſpleaſure therein in ſharp terms, ſo that the ſaid Lords do thereby acknowledge that there had been a Speech concerning

cerning ſuch a ſecurity by the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour when they ſay, he demanded the ſame of them, and they denied it, and then alſo when the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour ſhewed his diſpleaſure thereat in ſharp terms; and the ſaid Embaſſadour ſaith alſo in the ſaid Letter, not that the mentioned Lords of *Amſterdam* had engaged themſelves to give particular ſecurity, but onely ſimply that they had ſaid, that there were remedies to which no recourſe was to be had but in the utmoſt extremity, and that they would not ſpeak with him thereof till they had left all hope of moving the States to aſſent to that ſecurity his Majeſty deſired.

This being a true recital of what paſſed in the Aſſembly of the States on the 16th of this Month, as alſo of what happened about the conduct which the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* were pleaſed to obſerve; and concerning what farther paſſed, and by undeniable conſequences muſt be deduced from thence, I leave it to the judgment of every one if in theſe matters in the procedures againſt the Lords deputed of *Amſterdam*, there hath appeared any rigour, prejudice or unbeſeemingneſs, and if they have not abuſed the State and Fellow-members in an unheard of and inſufferable manner, and if thoſe Lords which then compoſed that Aſſembly, and who with ſo much circumſpection proceeded to the aforeſaid ſealing up of their Papers were rather to be condemned, that in a matter ſo important and ſuch a high nature they uſed not more vigour for the conſervation of the right of their State againſt thoſe who had proceeded in ſuch an unworthy manner to the ruine of the ſaid State, and who had ſo criminally acted therein, and more than once made themſelves guilty of *Crimen læſæ Majeſtatis*, and whether the good Inhabitants of the Countrey have not the greateſt reaſon to complain that ſuch a chief Member of the Government as is the Government of the City of *Amſterdam*, could fall into ſo pernicious a conduct, that they would cut off

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and ſeparate themſelves from their other fellow Members; and that all this is vented among the good Inhabitants with ſo much untruth as if the Government of the foreſaid City had in this matter no quarrel with their fellow Members, but onely with his Highneſs, to make all his actions every where odious, and to decry them down, whereas all the Members of the States Aſſembly, none excepted, have agreed with his Highneſs in the ſame ſentiment, as well concerning the ſaid Levy, as concerning the promoting of an accommodation; that they all, none excepted, have highly blamed and been ſcandalized at the conduct of the Lords of *Amſterdam*, and whereas the moderateſt of them who had laboured to find out expedients to allay, and remove if poſſible the ſaid differences ſo hurtfull and ruinous to this State, were convinced that on the part of his Highneſs all hath been done which hath been required of him, and that this condeſcenſion hath onely extended to confirm the Lords of *Amſterdam* in their difference, as if the Government of the State had been ſolely intruſted to them, and that all the other Members muſt yield to them. The length of this diſcourſe troubleth me, but I thought I ought once to let you ſee without any diſguiſement, and in all truth, the matter which here being related as it hath paſſed, can by none who was in the Aſſembly be contradicted as to the truth of the affair. I ſhall always remain, Sir,

Your humble Servant,

PHILALETHES.

POSTSCRIPT.

POSTSCRIPT.

AFter I had witten the aforeſaid, there came to my hands a Memorial preſented to this State by the Count *D' Avaux* Embaſſadour of the King of *France* the 28th of this Month; I acknowledge I could never have thought that a Lord of ſo great a capacity and experience could have reſolved to preſent a Memorial of that kind, and that the zeal for defending the Lords of *Amſterdam* who have ſo much miſtaken themſelves, and acted in ſuch a criminal manner againſt the Majeſty and Sovereignty of the State, had ſo far prevailed with him thus to expreſs himſelf as appeareth by the ſaid Memorial, which alſo more and more confirmeth the ſaid correſpondency, and more and more accuſeth the ſaid Lords. The firſt thing that the Lord Embaſſadour in the ſaid Memorial ſaith is in effect (what he had ſaid by word of mouth to thoſe deputed by the Lords the States who were with him in Conference) that he had informed his Majeſty of the matter, as in truth it was, but in that manner as he ſuppoſed he muſt repreſent it to his Maſter; and that he therefore in that Letter had alledged many circumſtances which agreed not with the truth of the matter. For firſt, what can more ſtrongly ſerve to deſtroy all the Conferences that he had with him the Lord Embaſſadour, and which he ſhould repreſent to his Maſter, according to the truth what had therein paſſed, when the ſaid Embaſſadour by a formal Memorial, ſaith, that he repreſented the matter to his Maſter, not as they are, but as he judged it beſt to repreſent it, and who will believe that ſo conſiderable a perſon having the honour to ſerve ſuch a King ſhould take upon him to relate matters

in another form than in truth they were acted; yea, who will believe that in this Relation he hath ſo done, ſince the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour was firſt ſo carefull to add in the ſame Letter the trouble he was in that he could no ſooner adviſe his Majeſty of what here paſſed, and how much his Majeſty was therein concerned that he might be well informed of what here paſſed, chiefly when therein may be remarked, that of himſelf and without order he dare not make the leaſt ſtep or advance though much thereto ſolicited, and how ſerviceable ſoever himſelf might judge it, how much he hath in regard the intereſt of his Maſter when he truly ſpeaketh; and agreed to points which might be urged of him yet with that precaution that his Majeſty ſhould not thereby be forepromiſed, than that his Maſter ſhould not thereby be too much engaged; and again that his Maſter might not be hindred to doe what he ſhould judge beſt? None can imagine that a Miniſter even in that Letter, who hath ſuch reſpect to his Maſter's intereſt, and with thoſe who ſeek to deal with him in that manner underſtandeth how to be able to Treat; and yet in the ſaid Letter to repreſent the truth that happened otherwiſe than it came to paſs. It is alſo worth obſervation, that whereas the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour in the aforeſaid Memorial alledgeth, that for the ordering of a Conference concerning the Ship *La Regle*, he ſhould not have uſed the conduct, of which in the ſaid Letter mention is made: The Lords of *Amſterdam* on the contrary by their advice acknowledge and avow that conduct. Secondly, It is to be obſerv'd that the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour by the foreſaid Memorial alledgeth, that the aforeſaid Letter either through ignorance or malice was wrong uncifered, and that therefore no credit was to be given to the ſame, whereas the mentioned Embaſſadour in that Memorial yieldeth that he had writ what had paſſed concerning the Ship *La Regle* ſo as it was uncifered; yea, that he had written

written concerning the trouble of ſome of the Members of the State concerning the devaſtation of the open Countrey, by which the mentioned Barrier would come to ſink or vaniſh in the ſame manner as it is uncifered, from whence neceſſarily muſt follow that the ſame cifers which in the reſt were uſed alſo, ſignifie the ſame Letters which they have ſignified in the ſaid periods, and how can any one be taken for an Impoſtor or Cozener who ſendeth withall the Key wherewith he hath uncifered it, and who mentioneth the A. B. C. and the other Letter which by Cifers have been ſignified, which A. B. C. and thoſe other Letters have as well been uſed in the paſſages ſpoken of the foreſaid Ship *La Regle*, and the aforeſaid devaſtation of the aforeſaid open Countrey, as in the other paſſages wherein is carped? he the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour toucheth further in the foreſaid Memorial on two paſſages, which he ſaith are very maliciouſly turned to a wrong ſenſe; the firſt is the paſſage which in what is uncifered inferreth, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* were but little moved concerning the pretended coming over of 135, for in the uncifering that number is uſed, and it is true that ſome Lords of the Government have thought that by that was meant the coming over of the Heer Penſionary *Heinſius*, ſince the ſame had as well writ from *France* as by word of mouth here reported that the State ought to put it ſelf in a poſture of Defence, then the Peace would then in all likelihood follow, and they muſt not ſuffer themſelves to be amuſed by promiſes to neglect that which to the aforeſaid defence was neceſſary, and yet no man notwithſtanding hath ever ſaid, much leſs the unciferer of the aforeſaid Letter, that that number deſigned the Heer *Heinſius*: what malignity there might be herein, I cannot conceive, for true it is, that the Lords deputed of the City of *Amſterdam* would never give credit to that, nor to other advertiſements, thinking and always

ſaying they were better informed, and therein expreſt themſelves even ſo far that in their turn giving their advice they feared not to ſay that although they were ſingular, yet it ſometimes happened that one alone might ſee as far and as much as all the reſt 18. But I pray what is there in this Explication that is ſo remarkably malicious, when the ſaid Embaſſadour ſaith, that the uncifering doth not infer that the Lords of *Amſterdam* were not a little allarmed at the pretended arrival of that Letter, which ſaith that they onely ſought to abuſe them, when as no man that I know hath drawn out of that period any thing, or would charge on the Lords of *Amſterdam* as an offence, that they were more or leſs credulous or ſcrupulous. The Second period is that which ſpeaketh of the Heer *Paets*, and others well intentioned who had now again taken courage and joyned themſelves to *Amſterdam*, and who had ſaid to their friends that they never had conceived that his Majeſty would have done ſo much as was now done in *Flanders* with annexing the number 180. It is true the words have but ſmall ſenſe, except onely that it might thereout be concluded, that the ſame whom the Lord Embaſſadour in that period named or deſigned began again to appear, encouraged thereto by the good which they never expected the King would have done or did. And the ſaid Embaſſadour ſaith not alone that that uncifering is falſe, but confirmeth the ſame very ſtiff, when by the aforeſaid Memorial, he ſaith, that what is Cifered ſuppoſeth that all the well minded whom he there nameth good Republicans had reaſſumed courage, that they had ſaid to their friends that they never had conceived that his Majeſty would doe ſo many things as he now did in favour of the good party, but that is true that no man hath thought that there was a party ſo affixed to *France*, and of which *Amſterdam* was the head, and for which his Majeſty would doe ſo many things

things, of which no man had given the Government any knowledge, either directly or indirectly; and thence had alſo been no knowledge thereof, if the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour had not ſo clearly mentioned it in the foreſaid Memorial, and had placed the Lords of *Amſterdam* and the good Republicans together; and in one place, what offence it is to make ſuch a Party in a State, and that alſo with Foreigners, is very well known, and there be Capital Examples thereof to be produced out of the Regiſter of the States, which will alſo be ſhewn when the Matter ſhall be brought before the Judgment-ſeat. What concerneth the laſt Point concerning the ſecurity, which ſhould be required of theſe of *Amſterdam* in particular, I will ſpeak thereof no more, for that in my latter I have made ample mention thereof: I will onely ſay, that the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour hath ſaid by the ſaid Memorial, that he well knew particulars could not give it, and that his Majeſty never would have deſired it; and that yet the Lords of *Amſterdam* in their Information ſay, That he the Lord Embaſſadour had often urged it from them, yea ſo far, that they denying it, he ſhould have expreſt his diſpleaſure; whether this agreeth together, judge ye. I can do no better than to ſay, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* have ſuffered themſelves to be amuſed by deceitfull promiſes, as the Prieſt of the Lord Embaſſadour well ſaith in his Note, who by the ſaid Memorial they would ſay to be ſuch a ſimple fellow, to thoſe who are not acquainted with him, but who hath a quite other reputation by thoſe to whom he is in any manner known. I will hencewith conclude, and onely ſay, that it needs muſt be a great grief to me and all good Patriots, that the Lords of *Amſterdam* have uſed ſo ill a Conduct, and taken ſo wrong a path, and to ſo great a diſadvantage of their Country, as to put and maintain the ſame in a State, without defence, through their abſtracting the ſaid Levy, and in that manner expoſe the ſame to the utmoſt

utmoſt danger on the Promiſe or Conditions of Peace, which by the State could not be brought forth, for that it depended on the approbation of *Spain*, and which was declared by the *Spaniſh* Miniſters here, as alſo by the Miniſter of this State reſiding in *Spain*, that it never would be agreed to by *Spain*, let the event be what it will, and that they draw their deſign with ſo great immoderation and preſumption, that therein they neither would ſpare their Country nor the good Inhabitants thereof; and this obſtinateneſs is ſo much the more to be admired, for that it cannot be denied, but that of two matters, the one muſt be true; that is, that either the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour by the foreſaid Letter doth repreſent the truth of what had paſſed between him and the Lords of *Amſterdam*, in which Caſe the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam* are notoriouſly guilty of Crimes, *Læſæ Majeſtatis*, as is before demonſtrated, or that the aforeſaid Lord Embaſſadour hath not repreſented matters according to truth in the foreſaid Letter, and hath not therein proceeded with them in that juſt manner which ſo important a matter required; in which Caſe the ſaid Lords of *Amſterdam*, if they were ſuch good and ſincere Patriots as they pretend to be, and would clear themſelves of all Partiſhip, of which the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour maintaineth in the foreſaid Letter they ought to ſhew their Reſentment againſt thoſe who ſo wrongfully and inſinuatingly would make them to be ſuſpected; and finding themſelves amuſed by deceitfull promiſes, and under colour thereof endeavoured to make the Partiſhips, they would at laſt join with their fellow-members, and with ſuch zeal and inclination as was fitting, would concur to the eſtabliſhing of thoſe means which all their other fellow-members judge reaſonable and neceſſary for the common defence without longer amuſing themſelves with thoſe who create ſuch intreagues to ſo great a detriment of the State, chiefly ſince the ſaid Lord Embaſſadour in his fore-

foreſaid Memorial is convinced, and clearly acknowledgeth that by the whole Government, how there is a great inclination in a friendly manner to put a period to theſe differences by an Accommodation.

FINIS.